

Executive Nursing Officer, and governed by a Nursing Board, on which, in addition to the Matron-in-Chief, the Matrons of two civil hospitals have seats. This is the first instance in this country of the formation of a Government Nursing Department on a professional basis.

It is to be regretted that the Admiralty, which has recently issued new regulations for Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service, has not followed the sister Service in appointing a Matron-in-Chief and Nursing Board, but has adhered to its obsolete methods of organisation.

The President of the Local Government Board early in the year appointed a Departmental Committee to inquire into the Nursing of the Sick Poor in Workhouses. It is regrettable that no Superintendent of Nursing was appointed as a member of this Committee, as the value of its deliberations must have been enhanced by such an appointment. At the same time much valuable evidence was received by the Committee, and many of their recommendations, if carried out, should have the effect of increasing the efficiency of the care of the sick in workhouses. No recommendation was made by the Departmental Committee as to the formation of a Nursing Department, which in the view of most trained nurses is the first essential of success in any Governmental Nursing Service.

#### COLONIAL NURSING.

The Colonial Office has so far inaugurated no Nursing Department. When the Governor of a Crown Colony makes application to the Colonial Office for a nurse to fill a Government appointment, that Office applies, as a rule, to the Colonial Nursing Association to select the candidate, though not invariably so. Good service has been done by the nurses sent out by the Colonial Office to South Africa in the Concentration Camps. In this connection it is noteworthy that a trained nurse was included in the Commission appointed by the Government to inquire into the condition of these camps.

#### CHANGES IN THE NURSING WORLD.

Three of the large London Training Schools have changed their Matrons this year. Miss Gordon, Matron of St. Thomas' Hospital, resigned this position, and was succeeded by Miss H. E. Hamilton, Matron of University College Hospital, and Miss Dora Finch, Matron of the New Hospital for Women, followed Miss Hamilton at University College Hospital. Miss Heather-Bigg, Matron of the Chelsea Hospital for Women, succeeded Miss H. Gordon at Charing Cross Hospital, and her successor at the Chelsea Hospital for Women was Miss E. M. Edwards. Miss Cox-Davies has been appointed Matron of the New Hospital for Women, Euston Road; Miss K. E. Whitehead, of the Hospital for Diseases of the Throat, Golden Square;

Miss Bushby, of the North-Eastern Hospital for Children; Miss Stirling Hamilton, of the Royal Hospital for Incurables, Putney; Miss A. A. Browne, of the Grove Hospital, Tooting; Miss M. R. S. Asquith, of St. Mary's Hospital for Sick Children, Plaistow; Miss E. A. Barber, of the National Hospital for Diseases of the Heart, Soho Square.

In the Provinces some of the more important appointments to Matronships in the past year are those of Miss F. G. Pegg to the Salop Infirmary, Shrewsbury; Miss Emma Smale to the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital; Miss A. M. Edwards to the County Hospital, York; Miss S. L. Longton to the Manchester Children's Hospital, Pendlebury; Miss E. R. Dobie to the Chesterfield and North Derbyshire Hospital; Miss M. F. May to the Bridgewater Infirmary; Miss L. Gaved Wills to the Hospital, Newark-on-Trent; Miss E. J. Atkins to the Royal Hospital, Portsmouth; Miss E. Keith to the General Hospital, Tunbridge Wells; Miss A. B. Todd to the West Norfolk and Lynn Hospital; Miss M. Cecil Lewis to the General Hospital, Nuneaton; Miss Prudence Crispin to the Swansea General and Eye Hospital; Miss Florence Frost to St. Luke's Hospital, Halifax; Miss L. M. Paine to the Hospital, Gravesend.

In Ireland, Miss L. V. Haughton has been appointed Matron of Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital, Dublin; Miss M. F. Bostock, of the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast; Miss E. O. Coffey, of Barrington's Hospital, Limerick.

In Bombay, Miss C. R. Mill has been appointed to the important position of Matron of St. George's Hospital, the European General Hospital in that city.

#### THE MATRONS' COUNCIL OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

Early in the year the Matrons' Council came to the conclusion that the work connected with furthering the principle of State Registration of Trained Nurses rendered advisable the formation of a society having this sole aim in view, and the Registration Sub-Committee was deputed to consider its organisation. The Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses was officially formed on May 30th at a meeting at 26, George Street, Hanover Square, when Miss Louisa Stevenson, of Edinburgh, was appointed President, Miss Isla Stewart Senior Vice-President, and Mrs. Bedford Fenwick Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

Mrs. G. F. Wates, formerly Matron of the Lewisham Infirmary, was appointed by the Council to give evidence on its behalf before the Departmental Committee on the Nursing of the Sick Poor in Workhouse Infirmaries appointed by the President of the Local Government Board, and attended before the Committee. The evidence she then gave is published in the Blue Book recently issued in connection with this Inquiry.

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